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SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Argentina/Yugoslavia

DATE:

SUBJECT Yugoslav Congresses in Buenos Aires

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. The master Yugoslav Communist organization, Yugoslavia Libre, held a national congress in Buenos Aires on 3 and 4 May 1947, at which some 210 delegates from all over Argentina were present. Some representatives from Uruguay also attended. Also in attendance were Dalibor Jakasa, a member of the Yugoslav Legation's staff, and Alexander Kuncsi, the Czechoslovakian Minister. The meetings were presided over by Antonio Paparela.
2. Among the topics discussed were:
 - a.) The failure of the Yugoslav Commercial Mission to Argentina;
 - b.) The possibility of repressive measures by the Argentine authorities against Communists;
 - c.) The expected arrival of General Piro, new Yugoslav Minister to Argentina;
 - d.) The arrival from Italy during recent months of "several hundred" anti-Tito Yugoslavs who were followers of Mihailovich and Pavelic;
 - e.) The desperate situation in Yugoslavia resulting from two years of drought, which have played havoc with the food situation;
 - f.) Means of controlling the First Congress of Yugoslavs in Argentina, scheduled to be held immediately following this congress.
3. Although the Yugoslav Communists have long claimed to control all Yugoslav groups in Argentina through Yugoslavia Libre, they revealed in their discussions a concern over the arrival of anti-Tito elements, which could not be dismissed merely by branding them as Fascists. Therefore, on instructions from Belgrade, the line was adopted of playing up the need for unity of all Yugoslavs, irrespective of ideological beliefs or convictions, because of the urgent needs of Yugoslavia.
4. The following were elected as the new directors of Yugoslavia Libre: Pedro Zanetic, Nicolas Hrdalo, M. Stavrev, B. Majoli, and F. Vouk. Chosen as secretaries were: R. Mustach and Elida Faraguna.
5. On 5 May 1947 delegates from all Yugoslav groups met in the First Congress of Yugoslavs in Argentina. Organization work for this congress had been done by Antonio Paparela, Pedro Zanetic, Ivan Sazanic, Borislav Djikic, Antonio Zanetic, and Francisco Stekar. An attempt was made to emphasize that this was a congress for all Yugoslavs, irrespective of political beliefs. From members who were present at the congress, a permanent central board was chosen as follows:

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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President	Rude Mikulicic
Vice Presidents	Emilio Semolic
	Ilia Draskovic
	Trifko Perisic
	Nicolas Kazandjev
General Secretary	Pedro Zanetic
Assistant Secretary	Pedro Petkovic
Press & Propaganda Secretary	Mateo Bojanic
Recording Secretary	Elida Faraguna
Treasurer	Ivan Sazanic (Sazanic)
Assistant Treasurer	Jose Ognic (Ognic)
Voting Members	Borislav Djilic (Djukic)
	Boris Kosuta
	Stanislaw Baroto (Baretto)

6. Among the decisions adopted at this latter congress were:
- a.) To build a new Yugoslav hospital in Buenos Aires;
 - b.) To build a new Communist headquarters;
 - c.) To unite the different mutual aid organizations already existing, and to intensify further their activities;
 - d.) To form cooperatives, especially in the country regions, to furnish Yugoslavia with better and cheaper articles;
 - e.) To build schools, and to establish libraries for Yugoslavs;
 - f.) To increase the circulation of the newspaper Jugoslavenski Vjesnik to approximately eight or nine thousand, instead of its current three or four thousand, and at the same time to soften its outspokenly Communist slant so as to attract all groups of the community;
 - g.) To form a single master organization of Yugoslav women;
 - h.) To transform the Coordinating Committee of Aid to Yugoslavia, which is already affiliated with the Argentine Red Cross, into a Yugoslav Red Cross organization;
 - i.) To aid the expansion of the Yugoslav Youth Federation.

7. A board was also chosen to coordinate and increase aid for the reconstruction of Yugoslavia. The members are:

President	Borislav Djikic (Djukic)
Vice Presidents	R. Mikulicic
	I. Kovacevic
Secretary General	Pedro Zanetic
Secretary	F. Mohorcic
Recording Secretary	Francisco Stekar, Jr.
Treasurer	Ivan Sazanic (Sazanic)
Assistant Treasurer	Jose Ognic (Ognic)
Voting Members	Stanislaw Baretto (Baretto)
	E. Serolic
	M. Marinkevic
	A. Zanetic
	F. Stekar
	A. Serelic
	F. Valgoni
	S. Bosnic
	K. Brubisic
	P. Petkovic
	V. Stanta

8. Also discussed at this congress was the need for greater collaboration between the Yugoslav organizations and the Union Slava. The latter group had delegates present who stated that the Pan Slav movement in Argentina depended greatly on this group because the Yugoslavs were the best organized of the different Slav communities in Argentina.

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